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EXAMINER

MAHMOOD, REZWANUL

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PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/595,377	Applicant(s) FOX, STEPHEN JAMES	
	Examiner REZWANUL MAHMOOD	Art Unit 2164	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 13 April 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-40 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-40 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>04/13/2006</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claims 1-40 are pending in this office action.

Information Disclosure Statement

The listing of references in the Search Report is not considered to be an information disclosure statement (IDS) complying with 37 CFR 1.98. 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2) requires a legible copy of: (1) each foreign patent; (2) each publication or that portion which caused it to be listed; (3) for each cited pending U.S. application, the application specification including claims, and any drawing of the application, or that portion of the application which caused it to be listed including any claims directed to that portion, unless the cited pending U.S. application is stored in the Image File Wrapper (IFW) system; and (4) all other information, or that portion which caused it to be listed. In addition, each IDS must include a list of all patents, publications, applications, or other information submitted for consideration by the Office (see 37 CFR 1.98(a)(1) and (b)), and MPEP § 609.04(a), subsection I. states, "the list ... must be submitted on a separate paper." Therefore, the references cited in the Search Report have not been considered. Applicant is advised that the date of submission of any item of information or any missing element(s) will be the date of submission for purposes of determining compliance with the requirements based on the time of filing the IDS, including all "statement" requirements of 37 CFR 1.97(e). See MPEP § 609.05(a).

The information disclosure statement filed 04/13/2006 fails to comply with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2), which requires a legible copy of each cited foreign patent document;

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each non-patent literature publication or that portion which caused it to be listed; and all other information or that portion which caused it to be listed. It has been placed in the application file, but the information referred to therein has not been considered.

Claim Objections

Claims 16, 24, 31, and 33-39 are objected to under 37 CFR 1.75(c) as being in improper form because of multiple dependent claims 8, 10, 15, 16, 23, 24, 31, 33-38 . See MPEP § 608.01(n). Accordingly, the claims 16, 24, 31, and 33-39 have not been further treated on the merits.

Claims 1-7, 12, 14-19, 21, 25, 27, 29-34, and 38-40 are objected to because of the following informalities:

In claims 1-7, 12-14, 17-19, 21, 25, 27, 29, 31-34, and 38-40 the phrases “to be”, “can be”, and “may be” are objected to because it is unclear if the steps following the phrase(s) actually happen.

In claims 3 and 4 the phrase “preferably” is objected to because it is unclear if the steps are required or optional for the claimed invention.

In claims 3, 5, and 6, the phrase “including;” should be “including:”.

In claims 15, 16, 19, 21, and 29 the phrase “operable to” is objected to because it is unclear if the feature actually operates.

Appropriate correction is required.

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Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 1, 3, 5, 6, 21, 29, 40 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. The claims are hybrid claims as they claim a method and a system or a method and a software/program, therefore, it is unclear what the applicant is trying to claim. Claims 1, 3, 5, 6, and 40 disclose a method of establishing a computerized system with means and it is unclear whether the claims are method claims or system claims. Examiner is treating the claims as system claims as they disclose means for function. Claims 21 and 29 disclose a method including a program/software and it is unclear whether the claims are method claims or program/software claims. Examiner is treating the claims as program/software claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

Claims 1, 3, 5, 6, 12, 17-19, 21, 27, 29, and 40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter.

The claimed subject is rejected under 35 USC 101 for being "software per se".

The claimed invention of claims 1, 3, 5, 6, 12, 17, 27, and 40 are addressed to "a

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system” including means that can be interpreted as referring to lines of programming within the system, rather than referring to a physical object. The claimed invention of claims 18 and 19 are respectively addressed to a program and a software for performing tasks, that are not hardware but a program or a software. Claim 21 is addressed to running a program to integrate software processes and claim 29 is addressed to providing software operable to associate information, that are not hardware but a program or a software. Accordingly, the claim becomes nothing more than a set of software instructions which are "software per se".

“Software per se” is non-statutory under 35 USC 101 because it is merely a set instructions without any defined tangible output or tangible result being produced. The requirement for tangible result under 35 USC 101 is defined in *State Street Bank & Trust Co. v. Signature Financial Group Inc.*, 149 F.3d 1368, 47USPQ2d 1596 (Fed. Cir. 1998)

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1-40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Anderson (US Publication 2004/0046868).

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With respect to claim 1, Anderson discloses a method of establishing a computerised system for performing a task, including:

creating a list of actions ("action list") to be done by a practitioner in performing a task for storage on a computer (Anderson: Paragraph 45, lines 1-15);

creating a database of information relevant to the actions on the action list for storage on the computer (Anderson: Paragraph 42, lines 1-15; Paragraph 45, lines 1-15; Figure 1; Figure 5);

providing means for associating the actions in the action list with the relevant information in the database (Anderson: Paragraph 60, lines 1-10; Paragraph 61, lines 1-13; Figure 1);

providing file opening means for opening a file for the task to be performed (Anderson: Paragraph 60, lines 1-10; Paragraph 61, lines 1-13; Figure 1);

providing means for creating a file action list in the file to be opened for the task to be performed corresponding to the/action list (Anderson: Paragraph 45, lines 1-15; Paragraph 47, lines 1-9; Paragraph 56, lines 1-10); and

providing data input means for inputting data relevant to the actions to be done on the file action list (Anderson: Paragraph 45, lines 1-15; Paragraph 47, lines 1-9; Paragraph 56, lines 1-10).

With respect to claim 2, Anderson discloses a computerised method of performing a task, including:

selecting a list of actions to be done by a practitioner in performing a task from a

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plurality of lists of actions, each list of actions being associated with information in a database of information relevant to the actions on that list (Anderson: Paragraph 60, lines 1-10; Paragraph 61, lines 1-13; Figure 1);

opening a file for the task to be performed and creating a file action list in the file corresponding to the selected action list (Anderson: Paragraph 60, lines 1-10; Paragraph 61, lines 1-13; Figure 1; Figure 5); and

inputting data in the file relevant to the actions to be done on the file action list (Anderson: Paragraph 60, lines 1-10; Paragraph 61, lines 1-13; Figure 1; Figure 5).

With respect to claim 3, Anderson discloses a method of establishing a computerised system for performing a plurality of tasks, including;

creating a plurality of lists of actions ("action lists") for storage on a computer, each action list including actions to be done in performing one or more of the tasks in the plurality of tasks (Anderson: Paragraph 21, lines 8-15; Paragraph 42, lines 1-15; Paragraph 60, lines 1-10; Paragraph 61, lines 1-13; Figure 1; Figure 5);

creating a database of information relevant to the actions on the action lists for storage on the computer (Anderson: Paragraph 21, lines 8-15; Paragraph 42, lines 1-15; Paragraph 45, lines 1-15; Paragraph 60, lines 1-10; Paragraph 61, lines 1-13; Figure 1; Figure 5);

providing means for associating the actions in the action lists with the relevant information in the database (Anderson: Paragraph 21, lines 8-15; Paragraph 42, lines 1-15; Paragraph 60, lines 1-10; Paragraph 61, lines 1-13; Figure 1; Figure 5); and

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providing means for associating an action list with a task to be performed (Anderson: Paragraph 21, lines 8-15; Paragraph 42, lines 1-15; Paragraph 60, lines 1-10; Paragraph 61, lines 1-13; Figure 1; Figure 5).

Preferably, the method also includes the following:

providing file opening means for opening a file for a task to be performed selected from the plurality of tasks (Anderson: Paragraph 21, lines 8-15; Paragraph 42, lines 1-15; Paragraph 60, lines 1-10; Paragraph 61, lines 1-13; Figure 1; Figure 5);

providing means for creating a file action list in the file to be opened for the task to be performed corresponding to the action list for the selected task (Anderson: Paragraph 21, lines 8-15; Paragraph 42, lines 1-15; Paragraph 60, lines 1-10; Paragraph 61, lines 1-13; Figure 1; Figure 5); and

providing data input means for inputting data relevant to the actions to be done on the file action list (Anderson: Paragraph 21, lines 8-15; Paragraph 42, lines 1-15; Paragraph 60, lines 1-10; Paragraph 61, lines 1-13; Figure 1; Figure 5).

With respect to claim 4, Anderson discloses a computerised method of performing a task, including:

selecting a task to be performed from a plurality of tasks each task being associated with a list of actions to be done in performing that task ("action list"), each list of actions being associated with information in a database of information relevant to the actions on that list (Anderson: Paragraph 21, lines 8-15; Paragraph 42, lines 1-15; Paragraph 60, lines 1-10; Paragraph 61, lines 1-13; Figure 1; Figure 5);

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opening a file for the task to be performed and creating a file action list in the file corresponding to the action list for the selected task (Anderson: Paragraph 21, lines 8-15; Paragraph 42, lines 1-15; Paragraph 60, lines 1-10; Paragraph 61, lines 1-13; Figure 1; Figure 5); and

inputting data in the file relevant to the actions to be done on the file action list (Anderson: Paragraph 21, lines 8-15; Paragraph 42, lines 1-15; Paragraph 60, lines 1-10; Paragraph 61, lines 1-13; Figure 1; Figure 5).

Preferably, the method includes providing means for storing the data for retrieval whereby the actions which have been done can be viewed (Anderson: Paragraph 21, lines 8-15; Paragraph 42, lines 1-15; Paragraph 60, lines 1-10; Paragraph 61, lines 1-13; Figure 1; Figure 5).

With respect to claim 5, Anderson discloses a method of establishing a computerised system for performing a plurality of tasks, including;

creating a list of tasks to be performed (Anderson: Paragraph 21, lines 8-15; Paragraph 42, lines 1-15; Paragraph 45, lines 1-15; Paragraph 60, lines 1-10; Paragraph 61, lines 1-13; Figure 1; Figure 5);

creating a plurality of lists of actions ("action lists") for storage on a computer, each action list including actions to be done by a practitioner in performing a task (Anderson: Paragraph 21, lines 8-15; Paragraph 42, lines 1-15; Paragraph 45, lines 1-15; Paragraph 60, lines 1-10; Paragraph 61, lines 1-13; Figure 1; Figure 5);

creating a database of information relevant to each action to be done for storage

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on the computer (Anderson: Paragraph 21, lines 8-15; Paragraph 42, lines 1-15; Paragraph 45, lines 1-15; Paragraph 60, lines 1-10; Paragraph 61, lines 1-13; Figure 1; Figure 5);

associating each action in the plurality of action lists with information in the database relevant to doing that action (Anderson: Paragraph 21, lines 8-15; Paragraph 42, lines 1-15; Paragraph 45, lines 1-15; Paragraph 60, lines 1-10; Paragraph 61, lines 1-13; Figure 1; Figure 5); and

providing means for accessing information in the database relating to an action to be taken (Anderson: Paragraph 21, lines 8-15; Paragraph 42, lines 1-15; Paragraph 44, lines 1-18; Paragraph 45, lines 1-15; Paragraph 60, lines 1-10; Paragraph 61, lines 1-13; Figure 1; Figure 5).

With respect to claim 6, Anderson discloses a method of establishing a computerised system for performing a plurality of tasks, including;

creating a list of tasks to be performed (Anderson: Paragraph 21, lines 8-15; Paragraph 42, lines 1-15; Paragraph 45, lines 1-15; Paragraph 60, lines 1-10; Paragraph 61, lines 1-13; Figure 1; Figure 5);

creating a plurality of lists of actions ("action lists") for storage on a computer, each action list including actions to be done by a practitioner in performing each of the tasks in the list of tasks (Anderson: Paragraph 21, lines 8-15; Paragraph 42, lines 1-15; Paragraph 45, lines 1-15; Paragraph 60, lines 1-10; Paragraph 61, lines 1-13; Figure 1; Figure 5);

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creating a database of information relevant to the actions in the action lists
(Anderson: Paragraph 21, lines 8-15; Paragraph 42, lines 1-15; Paragraph 45, lines 1-15; Paragraph 60, lines 1-10; Paragraph 61, lines 1-13; Figure 1; Figure 5);

associating each action in the plurality of action lists with information in the database relevant to doing that action (Anderson: Paragraph 21, lines 8-15; Paragraph 42, lines 1-15; Paragraph 45, lines 1-15; Paragraph 60, lines 1-10; Paragraph 61, lines 1-13; Figure 1; Figure 5); and

providing modification means for modifying the lists of tasks, lists of actions and/or the information in the database (Anderson: Paragraph 46, lines 1-18).

With respect to claim 7, Anderson discloses a computerised method of performing a task including:

displaying a checklist of actions to be done by the user to complete the task
(Anderson: Paragraph 21, lines 8-15; Paragraph 42, lines 1-15; Paragraph 45, lines 1-15; Paragraph 60, lines 1-10; Paragraph 61, lines 1-13; Figure 1; Figure 5);

selecting one or more of the actions to be done to complete at least in part the task (Anderson: Paragraph 21, lines 8-15; Paragraph 42, lines 1-15; Paragraph 45, lines 1-15; Paragraph 60, lines 1-10; Paragraph 61, lines 1-13; Figure 1; Figure 5);

identifying one or more operations to be executed by reference to the action or to one or more other criteria (Anderson: Paragraph 21, lines 8-15; Paragraph 42, lines 1-15; Paragraph 45, lines 1-15; Paragraph 60, lines 1-10; Paragraph 61, lines 1-13; Figure 1; Figure 5);

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entering data relevant to at least some actions and/or operations relevant to the doing or execution thereof (Anderson: Paragraph 46, lines 1-18; Paragraph 47, lines 1-9; Figure 5); and

storing the data so entered whereby the user can check the extent to which actions and/or operations have been completed or executed in performing the task (Anderson: Paragraph 46, lines 1-18; Paragraph 47, lines 1-9; Figure 5).

With respect to claim 8, Anderson discloses the method according to any one of Claims 1, 3, 5 or 6, wherein means are provided for arranging the file according to a predetermined order (Anderson: Paragraph 5, lines 1-9; Figure 5).

With respect to claim 9, Anderson discloses the method according to Claim 8, wherein means are provided for arranging the file in any suitable order at the option of the practitioner (Anderson: Paragraph 5, lines 1-9).

With respect to claim 10, Anderson discloses the method according to any one of Claims 2, 4 or 7, wherein means are provided for arranging the file according to a predetermined order (Anderson: Paragraph 5, lines 1-9; Figure 5).

With respect to claim 11, Anderson discloses the method according to Claim 10, wherein means are provided for arranging the file in any suitable order at the option of the practitioner (Anderson: Paragraph 5, lines 1-9).

With respect to claim 12, Anderson discloses a computer-based system operable for performing a task, including:

display means for displaying actions to be done or considered by a practitioner in performing a task to be performed (Anderson: Figure 5; Figure 1);

database accessing means operably associated with the displayed actions for accessing information in a database relevant to the actions displayed (Anderson: Paragraph 21, lines 8-15; Paragraph 42, lines 1-15; Paragraph 60, lines 1-10; Paragraph 61, lines 1-13; Figure 1; Figure 5);

data input means operably associated with the displayed actions for entering data obtained by reference to the information in the database (Anderson: Paragraph 21, lines 8-15; Paragraph 42, lines 1-15; Paragraph 60, lines 1-10; Paragraph 61, lines 1-13; Figure 1; Figure 5);

data storage means for storing data entered via the data input means; and
data retrieval means for retrieval of the data entered whereby actions which have been done and/or considered can be viewed (Anderson: Paragraph 21, lines 8-15; Paragraph 42, lines 1-15; Paragraph 60, lines 1-10; Paragraph 61, lines 1-13; Figure 1; Figure 5).

With respect to claim 13, Anderson discloses a system according to Claim 12, wherein a front-end interface is provided operable for interactive input by a user, the front-end interface providing a plurality of menu or command based entry points to a selection of practice modules each of which relates to a task (Anderson: Paragraph 21, lines 8-15; Paragraph 42, lines 1-15; Paragraph 60, lines 1-10; Paragraph 61, lines 1-

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13; Figure 1; Figure 5).

With respect to claim 14, Anderson discloses a system according to Claim 13, wherein the front-end interface provides for user identity input so that a plurality of users may use the system, and/or method, and a plurality of action lists is provided for the user to select a task to be performed from a plurality of different tasks (Anderson: Paragraph 21, lines 8-15; Paragraph 42, lines 1-15; Paragraph 60, lines 1-10; Paragraph 61, lines 1-13; Figure 1; Figure 5).

With respect to claim 15, Anderson discloses a system according to Claim 13 or Claim 14, wherein the front-end interface includes a log-in module operable to provide individual users with a log-in identity, suitably including a log-in password (Anderson: Abstract, lines 1-15).

With respect to claim 16, Anderson discloses a system according to any one of Claims 13 to 15, wherein the front-end interface operatively interacts with a practice management engine operable to call the front-end interface and professional practice modules (Anderson: Paragraph 33, lines 1-11; Figure 3).

With respect to claim 17, Anderson discloses a computer-based system for performing a task including:

a list of actions ("action list") to be done by a user to perform a task to be

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performed, the action list being displayable on a computer screen (Anderson: Paragraph 21, lines 8-15; Paragraph 42, lines 1-15; Paragraph 60, lines 1-10; Paragraph 61, lines 1-13; Figure 1; Figure 5);

data input means operatively associated with each action in the action list for input of data relevant to the action (Anderson: Paragraph 21, lines 8-15; Paragraph 42, lines 1-15; paragraph 46, lines 1-18; Paragraph 60, lines 1-10; Paragraph 61, lines 1-13; Figure 1; Figure 5);

data storage means for storing data entered via the data input means for display with the action list whereby a user may check which actions have been done in performing the task (Anderson: Paragraph 21, lines 8-15; Paragraph 42, lines 1-15; Paragraph 60, lines 1-10; Paragraph 61, lines 1-13; Figure 1; Figure 5).

With respect to claim 18, Anderson discloses a computer program for assisting a practitioner in performing a task, including:

means for displaying actions to be done or considered by a practitioner in performing a task to be performed (Anderson: Paragraph 21, lines 8-15; Paragraph 42, lines 1-15; Paragraph 60, lines 1-10; Paragraph 61, lines 1-13; Figure 1; Figure 5);

means for accessing information in a database relevant to the actions displayed (Anderson: Paragraph 21, lines 8-15; Paragraph 42, lines 1-15; Paragraph 60, lines 1-10; Paragraph 61, lines 1-13; Figure 1; Figure 5);

means for entering data obtained by reference to the information in the database (Anderson: Paragraph 21, lines 8-15; Paragraph 42, lines 1-15; Paragraph 60, lines 1-

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10; Paragraph 61, lines 1-13; Figure 1; Figure 5);

means for storing data entered via the data input means (Anderson: Paragraph 21, lines 8-15; Paragraph 42, lines 1-15; Paragraph 60, lines 1-10; Paragraph 61, lines 1-13; Figure 1; Figure 5); and

means for retrieval of the data entered whereby actions which have been done and/or considered can be viewed (Anderson: Paragraph 21, lines 8-15; Paragraph 42, lines 1-15; Paragraph 60, lines 1-10; Paragraph 61, lines 1-13; Figure 1; Figure 5).

With respect to claim 19, Anderson discloses software for performing a plurality of tasks, including:

a database adapted to contain information relevant to actions to be done or considered in performing a plurality of tasks (Anderson: Paragraph 21, lines 8-15; Paragraph 42, lines 1-15; Paragraph 60, lines 1-10; Paragraph 61, lines 1-13; Figure 1; Figure 5);

a file opening module operable to open a file for a task to be performed selected from the plurality of tasks (Anderson: Paragraph 21, lines 8-15; Paragraph 42, lines 1-15; Paragraph 60, lines 1-10; Paragraph 61, lines 1-13; Figure 1; Figure 5);

a display module operable to display information from the database relevant to actions to be considered or done' in performing the selected task (Anderson: Paragraph 21, lines 8-15; Paragraph 42, lines 1-15; Paragraph 60, lines 1-10; Paragraph 61, lines 1-13; Figure 1; Figure 5);

a data input module operable to provide for the input of data relevant to the

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actions to be considered or done in performing the selected task (Anderson: Paragraph 21, lines 8-15; Paragraph 42, lines 1-15; Paragraph 60, lines 1-10; Paragraph 61, lines 1-13; Figure 1; Figure 5); and

a data storage module for storing data in the file (Anderson: Paragraph 21, lines 8-15; Paragraph 42, lines 1-15; Paragraph 60, lines 1-10; Paragraph 61, lines 1-13; Figure 1; Figure 5).

With respect to claim 20, Anderson discloses software according to Claim 19, wherein the data in the file is stored in the database of information (Anderson: Paragraph 21, lines 8-15; Paragraph 42, lines 1-15; Paragraph 60, lines 1-10; Paragraph 61, lines 1-13; Figure 1; Figure 5).

With respect to claim 21, Anderson discloses a method of performing a plurality of tasks including:

running a program on one or more computers so as to integrate software processes (Anderson: Figure 3), the processes including:

a database process operable to store and retrieve information relevant to actions to be done or considered in performing a plurality of tasks (Anderson: Figure 1);

a file opening process operable to open a file for a task to be performed selected from the plurality of tasks (Anderson: Paragraph 21, lines 8-15; Paragraph 42, lines 1-15; Paragraph 60, lines 1-10; Paragraph 61, lines 1-13; Figure 1; Figure 5);

a display process operable to display information from the database relevant to

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actions to be considered or done in performing the selected task (Anderson: Paragraph 21, lines 8-15; Paragraph 42, lines 1-15; Paragraph 60, lines 1-10; Paragraph 61, lines 1-13; Figure 1; Figure 5);

a data input process operable to provide for the input of data relevant to the actions to be considered or done in performing the selected task (Anderson: Paragraph 21, lines 8-15; Paragraph 42, lines 1-15; Paragraph 46, lines 1-18; Paragraph 60, lines 1-10; Paragraph 61, lines 1-13; Figure 1; Figure 5); and

a data storage process for storing data in the file (Anderson: Paragraph 21, lines 8-15; Paragraph 42, lines 1-15; Paragraph 60, lines 1-10; Paragraph 61, lines 1-13; Figure 1; Figure 5).

With respect to claim 22, Anderson discloses a method according to Claim 21, wherein the data storage process integrates the data in the file into the database of information (Anderson: Paragraph 21, lines 8-15; Paragraph 42, lines 1-15; Paragraph 60, lines 1-10; Paragraph 61, lines 1-13; Figure 1; Figure 5).

With respect to claim 23, Anderson discloses a method according to Claim 21 or 22, wherein the processes further include a front-end interface operable for interactive input by a user, the front-end interface providing a plurality of menu or command based entry points (Anderson: Paragraph 21, lines 8-15; Paragraph 42, lines 1-15; Paragraph 60, lines 1-10; Paragraph 61, lines 1-13; Figure 1; Figure 5).

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With respect to claim 24, Anderson discloses a method according to any one of Claims 21 to 23, wherein that the processes include a plurality of practitioner processes selectable from said entry points, each practice process relating to an action to be done in completing the task (Anderson: Paragraph 21, lines 8-15; Paragraph 42, lines 1-15; Paragraph 60, lines 1-10; Paragraph 61, lines 1-13; Figure 1; Figure 5).

With respect to claim 25, Anderson discloses a method of modifying a master list of actions to be done by a practitioner in performing a task, the master list being accessible by one or more users in a network of computers, including:

providing a database of information relevant to the actions on the master list stored on one or more of the computers in the network, the information being relevant information in the database (Anderson: Paragraph 21, lines 8-15; Paragraph 42, lines 1-15; Paragraph 60, lines 1-10; Paragraph 61, lines 1-13; Figure 1; Figure 5);

opening a file for the task to be performed and establishing a file action list corresponding to the master list in the file (Anderson: Paragraph 21, lines 8-15; Paragraph 42, lines 1-15; Paragraph 60, lines 1-10; Paragraph 61, lines 1-13; Figure 1; Figure 5);

adding a modification to the file action list to create a modified action list; and saving the modification to the master action list (Anderson: Paragraph 21, lines 8-15; Paragraph 42, lines 1-15; Paragraph 60, lines 1-10; Paragraph 61, lines 1-13; Figure 1; Figure 5).

With respect to claim 26, Anderson discloses a method according to Claim 25, and including the further steps of selecting a choice from a group containing the options of whether to make the modification to the file action list and the master action list or only the file action list (Anderson: Paragraph 46, lines 1-18).

With respect to claim 27, Anderson discloses a computer based system for performing a task, including:

a database of information including a master list of actions to be done or considered by a practitioner in performing a task to be performed (Anderson: Paragraph 21, lines 8-15; Paragraph 42, lines 1-15; Paragraph 60, lines 1-10; Paragraph 61, lines 1-13; Figure 1; Figure 5);

file opening means for opening a file for the task to be performed and establishing a file action list corresponding to the master list in the file (Anderson: Paragraph 21, lines 8-15; Paragraph 42, lines 1-15; Paragraph 60, lines 1-10; Paragraph 61, lines 1-13; Figure 1; Figure 5);

data input means for inputting data for adding a modification to the file action list to create a modified action list (Anderson: Paragraph 21, lines 8-15; Paragraph 42, lines 1-15; Paragraph 60, lines 1-10; Paragraph 61, lines 1-13; Figure 1; Figure 5); and

data storage means for storing the modification in the master action list (Anderson: Paragraph 21, lines 8-15; Paragraph 42, lines 1-15; Paragraph 60, lines 1-10; Paragraph 61, lines 1-13; Figure 1; Figure 5).

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With respect to claim 28, Anderson discloses the system according to Claim 27, and including selection means for selecting whether to store the modification in the master action list or only the file action list (Anderson: Paragraph 46, lines 1-18).

With respect to claim 29, Anderson discloses a computerised method of performing a task including:

having an expert in a field prepare a list of actions ("action list") to be done in performing a task in that field (Anderson: Paragraph 21, lines 8-15; Paragraph 42, lines 1-15; Paragraph 60, lines 1-10; Paragraph 61, lines 1-13; Figure 1; Figure 5);

having the expert provide relevant information associated with the actions on that list (Anderson: Paragraph 21, lines 8-15; Paragraph 42, lines 1-15; Paragraph 60, lines 1-10; Paragraph 61, lines 1-13; Figure 1; Figure 5);

entering the list of actions and the information into a database (Anderson: Paragraph 21, lines 8-15; Paragraph 42, lines 1-15; Paragraph 60, lines 1-10; Paragraph 61, lines 1-13; Figure 1; Figure 5); and

providing software operable to associate the information in the database with the actions to be done in performing the task (Anderson: Paragraph 21, lines 8-15; Paragraph 42, lines 1-15; Paragraph 60, lines 1-10; Paragraph 61, lines 1-13; Figure 1; Figure 5).

With respect to claim 30, Anderson discloses a method of arranging information on a computer system relating to tasks to be performed by a practitioner, the method

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including:

providing a database including information required for performing a plurality of tasks (Anderson: Paragraph 21, lines 8-15; Paragraph 42, lines 1-15; Paragraph 60, lines 1-10; Paragraph 61, lines 1-13; Figure 1; Figure 5);

creating an action list of actions to be done in performing each of the tasks to be performed (Anderson: Paragraph 21, lines 8-15; Paragraph 42, lines 1-15; Paragraph 60, lines 1-10; Paragraph 61, lines 1-13; Figure 1; Figure 5);

operatively associating the information in the database with the actions to be done in performing each of the plurality of tasks (Anderson: Paragraph 21, lines 8-15; Paragraph 42, lines 1-15; Paragraph 46, lines 1-18; Paragraph 60, lines 1-10; Paragraph 61, lines 1-13; Figure 1; Figure 5).

With respect to claim 31, Anderson discloses the method according to any one of Claims 1 to 11, 21 to 26, 29 or 30 and including provision for tasks to be individualised and/or categorised (Anderson: Paragraph 5, lines 1-9; Figure 5)

With respect to claim 32, Anderson discloses the software according to Claim 19 or Claim 20, and including provision for tasks to be individualised and/or categorised (Anderson: Paragraph 5, lines 1-9; Figure 5).

With respect to claim 33, Anderson discloses the system according to any one of Claims 12 to 18, 27 or 28 and including provision for tasks to be individualised and/or

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categorised (Anderson: Paragraph 5, lines 1-9; Figure 5).

With respect to claim 34, Anderson discloses a method according to Claim 31, software according to Claim 32 or a system according to Claim 33, wherein the characterisation is customer based, and the individualisation is matter based, whereby a plurality of tasks may be performed for a customer of the user, and individual tasks may be equated with a matter (Anderson: Paragraph 46, lines 1-18).

With respect to claim 35, Anderson discloses software according to Claim 32 or Claim 34, wherein the processes are operable over a network of computers using distributed processing amongst one or more server computers and one or more client computers operatively attached in a configuration suitable for the particular network about which the invention is installed (Anderson: Figure 1).

With respect to claim 36, Anderson discloses software according to any one of Claims 32, 34 or 35, wherein the software is operatively associated with normal server side services to accommodate the execution of the method according to Claim 31 as a relational database having data tables relevant to customer information, user information, matter information and information relating to the action lists (Anderson: Figure 1).

With respect to claim 37, Anderson discloses a method according to Claim 31 or Claim 34, software according to Claim 32 or Claim 34 or a system according to Claim 33 or Claim 34, wherein the tasks are categorised into a range of kinds dependent on their intended usage (Anderson: Paragraph 5, lines 1-9; Paragraph 47, lines 1-9; Fig 5).

With respect to claim 38, Anderson discloses the method, software or system according to Claim 37, wherein the kinds include client-based action lists usable on client computers, article-based action lists for carrying out a task, and master action lists to which additional actions may be added by classes of users (Anderson: Paragraph 28, lines 1-14; Paragraph 44, lines 1-18; Figure 1).

With respect to claim 39, Anderson discloses the method, software and system according to Claim 38, and including provision for users to make suggestions for changes to be made to the master action list (Anderson: Paragraph 46, lines 1-18).

With respect to claim 40, Anderson discloses a method of establishing a computerised system for performing a task, including:

- creating a list of actions ("action list") to be done by a practitioner in performing a task for storage on a computer (Anderson: Paragraph 21, lines 8-15; Paragraph 42, lines 1-15; Paragraph 60, lines 1-10; Paragraph 61, lines 1-13; Figure 1; Figure 5);

- creating an action database including information relevant to the actions on the action list for storage on the computer (Anderson: Paragraph 21, lines 8-15; Paragraph

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42, lines 1-15; Paragraph 60, lines 1-10; Paragraph 61, lines 1-13; Figure 1; Figure 5);

creating a subscribers database including information relevant to subscribers having access to the computerised system (Anderson: Paragraph 21, lines 8-15; Paragraph 28, lines 1-14; Paragraph 42, lines 1-15; Paragraph 60, lines 1-10; Paragraph 61, lines 1-13; Figure 1; Figure 5);

creating an information database including information ("professional information") relevant to a field of practice of the practitioner (Anderson: Paragraph 21, lines 8-15; Paragraph 28, lines 1-14; Paragraph 42, lines 1-15; Paragraph 60, lines 1-10; Paragraph 61, lines 1-13; Figure 1; Figure 5);

creating a publisher database including information relevant to publishers of professional information (Anderson: Paragraph 21, lines 8-15; Paragraph 28, lines 1-14; Paragraph 42, lines 1-15; Paragraph 60, lines 1-10; Paragraph 61, lines 1-13; Figure 1; Figure 5);

providing means for associating the actions in the action list with the relevant information in the database (Anderson: Paragraph 21, lines 8-15; Paragraph 28, lines 1-14; Paragraph 42, lines 1-15; Paragraph 60, lines 1-10; Paragraph 61, lines 1-13; Figure 1; Figure 5);

providing file opening means for opening a file for the task to be performed (Anderson: Paragraph 21, lines 8-15; Paragraph 28, lines 1-14; Paragraph 42, lines 1-15; Paragraph 60, lines 1-10; Paragraph 61, lines 1-13; Figure 1; Figure 5);

providing means for creating a file action list in the file to be opened for the task to be performed corresponding to the action list (Anderson: Paragraph 21, lines 8-15;

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Paragraph 28, lines 1-14; Paragraph 42, lines 1-15; Paragraph 46, lines 1-18;

Paragraph 60, lines 1-10; Paragraph 61, lines 1-13; Figure 1; Figure 5);

providing database access means for subscribers to subscribe to information contained in any one or more of the databases (Anderson: Paragraph 21, lines 8-15;

Paragraph 28, lines 1-14; Paragraph 42, lines 1-15; Paragraph 60, lines 1-10;

Paragraph 61, lines 1-13; Figure 1; Figure 5); and

providing data input means for inputting data relevant to the actions to be done on the file action list (Anderson: Paragraph 21, lines 8-15; Paragraph 28, lines 1-14;

Paragraph 42, lines 1-15; Paragraph 60, lines 1-10; Paragraph 61, lines 1-13; Figure 1; Figure 5).

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to REZWANUL MAHMOOD whose telephone number is (571)272-5625. The examiner can normally be reached on M - F 10 A.M. - 5 P.M..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Charles Rones can be reached on (571)272-4085. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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